

South Dakota PRICES RECEIVED

News Release January 2, 2004

LIVESTOCK PRICES UP FROM LAST YEAR, WHILE CROP PRICES MIXED

SIOUX FALLS, January 2, 2004 – Preliminary December beef and pork prices are up from a year ago, according to USDA's South Dakota Ag Statistics Service. Preliminary December crop prices were mixed from a year ago, with corn and soybeans up but wheat, oats, and hay down.

The preliminary December, all beef cattle price, at \$86.50, was down \$6.10 from last month but up \$16.80 from last year. Cows were down \$1.10 from last month but up \$13.10 from a year ago. Steers and heifers, at \$99.80, were down \$2.20 from November but up \$18.00 from last year. Calves, at \$117.00, were up \$2.00 from last month and up \$18.10 from a year ago.

The preliminary December all hogs price, at \$36.80, was up 50 cents from last month and up \$5.40 from last year. Barrows and gilts were up 60 cents from November and up \$5.40 from last year. Sows were down \$2.00 from November but up \$5.20 from last year.

The preliminary December corn price, at 2.22 was up 20 cents from last month and up 10 cents from last year. The December soybean price, at \$7.26, was up 31 cents from last month and up \$1.95 from last year. The preliminary sunflower price for December, at \$11.00, was up 50 cents from last month but down \$1.50 from last year. The winter wheat price, at \$3.50, was up 15 cents from last month but down 53 cents from last December. The spring wheat price, at \$3.67, was up 3 cents from last month but down 57 cents from last year.

The all hay price for December, at \$61.00 per ton, was unchanged from November but down \$17.00 from last year. The alfalfa price, at \$64.00 per ton, was also unchanged from last month but down \$18.00 from last year. The other hay price, at \$49.00, was down \$1.00 from last month and down \$12.00 from December 2002.

PRICES RECEIVED BY SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS				
COMMODITY	UNIT	December 2002 1/	November 2003 1/	December 2003 2/
			DOLLARS	
Corn	Bu.	2.12	2.02	2.22
Soybeans	Bu.	5.31	6.95	7.26
Sunflower	Cwt.	12.50	10.50	11.00
Wheat, All	Bu.	4.17	3.44	3.55
Winter	Bu.	4.03	3.35	3.50
Other Spring	Bu.	4.24	3.64	3.67
Barley, All	Bu.	5/	2.37	5/
Feed	Bu.	5/	5/	5/
Malt	Bu.	5/	2.37	5/
Oats	Bu.	2.17	1.27	1.49
Flaxseed	Bu.	5/	5.86	5/
Hay, All	Ton	78.00	61.00	61.00
Alfalfa	Ton	82.00	64.00	64.00
Other	Ton	61.00	50.00	49.00
Cattle, All Beef 3/	Cwt.	69.70	92.60	86.50
Cows	Cwt.	35.40	49.60	48.50
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	81.80	102.00	99.80
Calves 4/	Cwt.	98.90	115.00	117.00
Hogs, All	Cwt.	31.40	36.30	36.80
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	32.60	37.40	38.00
Sows	Cwt.	21.80	29.00	27.00
Lambs	Cwt.	95.50	119.00	NA
Sheep	Cwt.	44.50	47.00	NA

^{1/} Entire month. 2/ Mid-month. 3/ Over 500 lbs. 4/ Under 500 lbs. 5/ Insufficient sales to establish a price. NA = Not Available.

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